

Laws Crack Down On Kids Who Smoke

Kids in Iowa who are caught smoking by the police may get more than a stern lecture. A new Iowa law makes it illegal for anyone under 18 years old to buy, smoke, chew, or even carry tobacco in any form.

When police catch kids smoking, they take the kids home to their parents. Under the new law, kids may be fined up to \$100 or sentenced to perform up to 40 hours of community service, such as working in a soup kitchen.

Iowa is one of 45 states with laws against selling cigarettes to kids

under the age of 18.

But Iowa's new law is one of the toughest in the nation because it makes it illegal for kids to smoke, no matter how they obtain cigarettes. Most other states punish anyone who sells tobacco to underage buyers but do not punish the buyers.

Will Tough Law Work?

Will the new Iowa law keep kids from smoking?

"We won't stop smoking. We just won't do it in front of the police," says one 15-year-old smoker. Some police officers say they are too busy dealing with more serious crimes committed by youths, such as burglaries, to go after young smokers.

But some adults who see underage kids buy or smoke cigarettes are complaining to Iowa police. Complaints from adults led to a recent crackdown on clerks selling cigarettes to kids.

"Kids who haven't started smoking will have a more difficult time getting cigarettes," says one official.

Locking Cigarette Machines

Some states have other laws aimed at stopping kids from smoking.

In states with laws barring cigarette sales to anyone under the age of 18, kids often buy cigarettes from vending machines. Now some states are trying to stop kids from

Major Causes of Death





Two kids posing for Weekly Reader are "caught" smoking by a police officer.

Non-vehicle accidents 47,400

Motor-vehicle deaths 50,100

Alcohol-related deaths 125,100

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Minnesota first banned cigarette machines from certain places, such as video-game arcades, where kids and teens have easy access to vending machines. Some other states have followed Minnesota's lead.

In Iowa, the new antismoking law aimed at kids requires lockout devices on cigarette machines. An attendant has to push a button to make a cigarette pack fall.

Smoking Is Dangerous for Kids

About 1 billion packs of cigarettes were sold illegally to kids under 18 in 1989, according to a federal report. The young smokers buying these cigarettes face serious dangers.

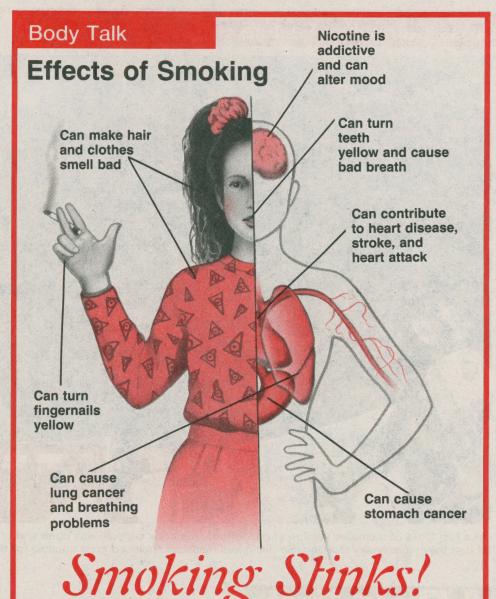
Studies show that the earlier a person forms the smoking habit. the harder it is to quit later in life. And, experts say, people who start smoking at a young age are more likely to develop deadly illnesses, such as lung cancer, than people who don't smoke or who start at an older age.

Smoking is a major preventable cause of illness and death. Yet each year, more Americans die as a result of smoking than as a result of all accidents. Smoking causes more than 400,000 deaths each year, health experts say. (See "Major Causes of Death" graph.)



Some people think that laws controlling personal habits, such as smoking, are too hard to enforce. They say the police should work to prevent more serious crimes. Do you agree or disagree with this point of view? Why?

Do you think it should be illegal for kids to smoke? Why or why not?



By Pat Fosarelli, M.D. Johns Hopkins Children's Center

"Yeah, I smoke. Big deal!" says a girl in my examination room. She has come to see me because she has a bad cough. The cough turns out to be bronchitis, a swelling of her airways. Doctors don't see many cases of bronchitis among kids or young adults. But this girl is a smoker.

The chemicals in cigarettes can also cause a smoker's teeth and fingernails to turn yellow. When the tar and nicotine in a cigarette burn, they give off a nasty odor.

That's why the breath and clothing of smokers tend to smell bad.

People who smoke for a long time are at high risk for lung cancer and many other illnesses. So why don't people just stop smoking? The nicotine in cigarettes is addictive. Once you get used to smoking, it's very hard to give it up.

If people pressure you to smoke, just ask yourself, "Do I want to get hooked on something that will turn my fingernails and teeth yellow, make my hair and clothing smell bad, irritate my lungs, and maybe even kill me?" The answer to that question is easy.

Cocaine-related deaths 200,000



Cross-Curriculum Feature



On a test flight of a smaller version of *Earthwinds*, the crew capsule was open and crew members nearly froze even though they wore heavy clothing. So designers made an enclosed crew capsule for the around-the-world flight.

A Flight First:

Around the World in a Balloon

You're in a truck-sized capsule suspended between two giant balloons, floating 35,000 feet above Earth. Outside, the temperature is -65 degrees Fahrenheit. The wind is blowing at 150 miles per hour, yet you feel as if you're standing still. If a capsule window should blow out, you'll have five or six seconds to put on an oxygen mask before the thin air takes your breath away. Your parachute is nearby too, just in case. . . .

Is this your idea of an adventure? Then you might enjoy flying with the crew of *Earthwinds*, the balloon that may be the first ever to make a nonstop trip around the world.

Earthwinds must be launched from its hangar in Akron, Ohio, straight up into the sky when winds are no stronger than 5 miles per hour. The launch is set to take place on just such a picture-perfect day between Nov. 15, 1991, and Feb. 28, 1992. The 19,000-mile trip should take between 12 and 21 days. (See map on page 8.)

The crew members of *Earthwinds* ride in a plastic foam and fiberglass capsule suspended between two balloons. They have supplies such as dried food and water for brushing their teeth.

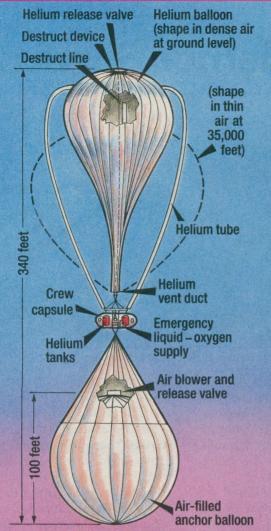
The most important job for the crew is to monitor their own lifesupport systems. Planned experiments for the flight include measuring wind speeds and checking Earth's ozone layer.

The crew can't control where the ballon goes; the wind does that. But they can move *Earthwinds* up or down to find favorable winds.

Larry Newman, an American who has made Atlantic and Pacific Ocean balloon crossings, is captain of *Earthwinds*. Joining him will be balloonist-billionaire Richard Branson of Great Britain, flight engineer Dan Moses of the United States, and Vladimir Dzhanibekov, a Soviet cosmonaut.

Newman says the crew won't give up if *Earthwinds* doesn't make it around the world this time.

"As long as you keep trying, you're not failing," he says.



How the Earthwinds Balloon Works

- The top balloon of *Earthwinds* is filled with helium, a lighter-than-air gas. The balloon itself, called an *envelope*, is made of plastic about the thickness of a sandwich bag. At launch, this envelope is pumped up with helium, which rises to the top of the balloon in a bubble, making the balloon look long and thin. This balloon carries the capsule and lower balloon into the air with it.
- The bottom "upside-down" balloon is filled with air, which makes it heavier than the upper balloon. For *Earthwinds* to rise, air must be vented from this lower balloon. An electric fan can increase air pressure inside this balloon to make it heavier.
- As Earthwinds climbs, the helium expands in the thinner air of the upper atmosphere. Now the top balloon looks round and full. The air-filled bottom balloon acts as an anchor to pull Earthwinds downward. The pressure in the lower balloon is changed to keep the double balloon floating at about the same height all the time.
- When it's time to land, helium is gradually vented from the upper balloon, and the lower balloon is deflated. If the anchor balloon drags too fast along the ground, the crew members have to put on their helmets and prepare for a rough landing.

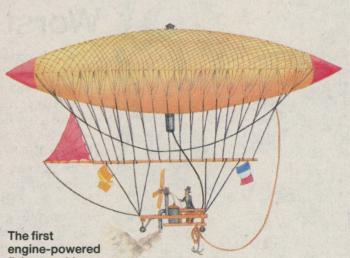
Balloons That Made History

In 1798, a
Frenchman named
Pierre Tetu-Brissy
became the first
person to sit on a
horse while
floating in a
balloon. The
balloon was
shaped like a
cigar to make
it more stable.





In 1784, a crowd of 100,000 watched in Great Britain as Italian Vincenzo Lunardi became the first person to fly in a balloon. The 13-mile flight took two and one-half hours.



flying machine, piloted by Henri Gifford in 1852, was called a dirigible. Dirigible is from a Latin word that means "to steer." A dirigible is not really a balloon, because it can be steered.

-Art courtesy ESPN

Kids Contact Pearl Harbor Survivors

"Yesterday, December 7, 1941—a date which will live in infamy—the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan."

President Franklin Roosevelt announced the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, in Hawaii, to a stunned nation. Fifty years later, some sixth graders in Westfield, Pa., found out what this World War II attack was like—from people who lived through it.

The kids began writing letters to Pearl Harbor survivors after their teacher, Bruce Weaver, contacted the founder of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Amateur Radio Net during a ham-radio demonstration. The students soon had 160 stories from survivors in 35 states. Here are just a few.

• Charles Curtze glanced out a porthole of the U.S.S. St. Louis to see whether it would be a good day for a swim. But his view was blocked by the wing of a Japanese plane pulling out of a dive.



Hit by a Japanese bomb, a U.S. ship at Pearl Harbor sinks on December 7, 1941.

• Art Mills was on his way to the radio room when a torpedo hit his ship, the U.S.S. *Utah*. When the ship rolled on its side, Art jumped into the water and swam through fuel oil to a timber that he clung to throughout the attack.

• Bill Bronson, stationed at Tripler General Hospital miles from Pearl Harbor, saw huge columns of smoke in the distance. Bronson manned his battle station—a hospital lab. In minutes, the ambulances began to arrive.

On Oct. 25, the Westfield students invited their pen pals to a Pearl Harbor Survivors Day at their school. Thirty-seven survivors came, from as far away as California and Texas. Each man received a copy of a book of the survivors' stories put together by the students.

News Update



A family in Oakland, Calif., finds their home destroyed by a fire that raged through the area.

People Rebuild Lives After Worst Fire in U.S. History

The fire swept through the dry hills around Oakland, Calif., so fast that many people had no time to do anything but run. Some grabbed a few belongings—a favorite stuffed toy, some family photo albums—before the flames came.

Fire fighters tried to hose down houses, but the blaze was too hot. Flames traveled up to 70 miles per hour, engulfing house after house.

By the time the last ember died out three days later, 3,000 homes had been leveled and at least 25 people had died. With damage set at \$5 billion, the fire is officially the worst in U.S. history.

Many of the destroyed homes

were in wealthy neighborhoods, where people had fire insurance to cover losses. But about 500 people had no insurance. And it will take months or years for those who had insurance to rebuild their lives.

In the days following the fire, disaster agencies set up local offices. Donations of items such as clothing and food poured in. People searched for places to live.

Some people plan to rebuild in the Oakland hills. Before they do, at least one new law may be passed to reduce the danger of another big fire. The law would require roofs shingled with wood to be treated with fire-retardant materials.

'Magic' Campaigns Against AIDS



Since Earvin "Magic" Johnson left pro basketball, many people say, he has become an even bigger star—in the fight against AIDS.

Johnson announced last month that he

would no longer play for the Los Angeles Lakers because he has the AIDS virus. But he also said he would go on the road to educate his fans about AIDS.

The day after Johnson made his announcement, AIDS hot lines lit up. Callers wanted to know how AIDS is spread and how they could be tested for the AIDS virus.



'Magic' Johnson says he can still beat Michael Jordan one-on-one.

People infected with the virus can spread it in two main ways: by sharing needles during drug use and through sexual contact.

Johnson says he also wants his fans to know that casual contact does not spread the AIDS virus.

"You can still give me high-fives and hugs," said Johnson in a TV interview.

Fascinating Facts About Balloons

- Two French brothers, who were papermakers by trade, invented the hot-air balloon in the late 1700's. The Montgolfier brothers began their experiments by filling paper bags with smoke. Their first passenger balloon, which was made of cloth lined with paper, took aloft a duck, a rooster, and a sheep. The rooster didn't make it back from its trip alive; the sheep somehow killed it.
- A hot-air balloon needs a burner below its air bag. Blasts of flame heat the air inside the bag and cause it to expand. The balloon rises, then descends as the air inside the bag cools.
- Gas-filled balloons use either helium or hydrogen, which are both lighter than air. As a balloon rises, the gas expands. Gas can be vented from a hole in the top of the balloon. The hole is usually covered with a wooden valve that can be opened by a person in the balloon basket pulling a rope attached to the valve.

Bood Year

An early airship is fueled up with hydrogen. Unlike true balloons, airships can be steered.

Talk It Out

Questions About 'Magic'

By Robert C. Rinaldi, Ph.D. Division of Health Science American Medical Association

"Magic" Johnson is a true sports hero. For many fans, he's larger than life. Many fans feel close to Magic, as if he's a friend or even a member of their own family.

If you feel this way about Magic, you may have felt disbelief, concern, or sadness when you heard the news that he has tested positive for the AIDS virus. You may be full of questions like these:

• How could this happen to Magic?

Magic may be a superstar, but he's a human being, too, like the rest of us. The AIDS virus can infect anyone who engages in certain risky behaviors. (See above story.)

• Could I catch the AIDS virus too?

You can't catch the AIDS virus if you don't do the things that put you at risk. You can't catch the AIDS virus through casual contact

with someone who is infected.

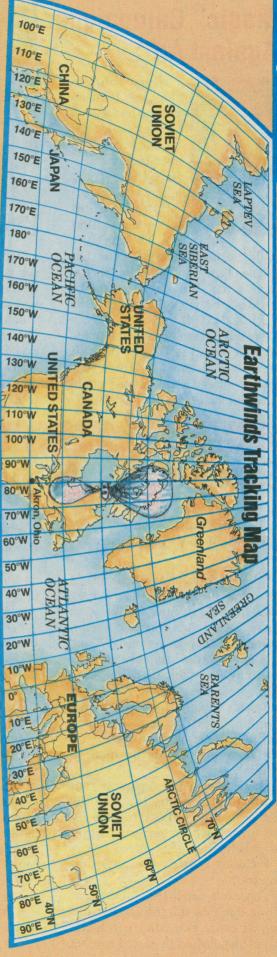
• Why can't Magic play basketball anymore?

Pro basketball puts a lot of stress on the mind and body, and Magic's doctors fear that this stress could weaken Magic.

• What will Magic's life be like now?

His day-to-day life won't be too much different. Magic isn't sick with AIDS vet. He could become ill soon, or he could stay healthy for years. The average person who is infected with the AIDS virus doesn't become ill for about 10 years. The AIDS virus then begins to break down the body's immune system and the infected person becomes ill with a variety of other diseases. The body can't fight off these diseases. Most people who become ill with AIDS live less than two years. New medicines are helping to prolong some patients' lives.

If you'd like to send a message to Magic Johnson, write to him in care of the Los Angeles Lakers.



Plot a Course

The Earthwinds around-the-world journey begins at Akron, Ohio. Beginning at this point, shown on the map, plot each location listed by first finding the latitude, then the longitude. (Latitude lines run side to side; longitude lines up and down.) Then connect the dots to see a possible Earthwinds route. Note: Save this map! If Earthwinds goes up after you receive this issue, you can track its actual progress on the ESPN network each day.

- Halifax, Nova Scotia (Can.)-44° N, 63° W
- St. John's, Newfoundland (Can.)-47° N, 52° W
- Plymouth, England (U.K.)—50° N, 4° W
- Orléans, France-47° N, 1° E
- Munich, Germany-48° N, 11° E
- Odessa, Ukraine (Soviet Union)—46° N, 30° E
- Irkutsk, Russia (Soviet Union)—52° N, 104° E
- Sapporo, Japan-43° N, 141° E
- San Francisco, Calif. (U.S.)—37° N, 122° W
- St. Louis, Mo. (U.S.) -38° N, 90° W

Map Reading

Mark each statement T if it is true or F if it is false

- 1. The Earthwinds route takes the balloon continuously east from Akron, Ohio.
- 2. The route takes the balloon above the Arctic Circle.
- 3. The longitude 0 degrees, called the prime meridian, passes through England.
- Sapporo, Japan, is about 6 degrees north of San Francisco, Calif.
 San Francisco, Calif., is about 20 de-
- grees east of Sapporo, Japan.
 6. The Soviet Union stretches east to west about 170 degrees.
- 7. The farthest point west in the United States shown on the map is at about longitude 122° W.
- 8. The balloon's route takes it across Europe from west to east.
- 9. The latitude 40° N runs through China as well as the United States.

News Comprehension

Underline the word or words that best complete each statement.

- 1. A new law in (Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio) makes it illegal for kids to buy or smoke cigarettes.
- 2. Under the new law, kids caught smoking may be (put in jail, fined \$100, suspended from school).
- 3. Most states have laws against (smoking cigarettes, selling tobacco to kids, manufacturing cigarettes).
- More Americans die of smoking-related illnesses than die of all (other illnesses combined, natural causes, accidents).
 The balloon that provides lift for Earthwinds is

THINK ABOUT THE NEWS

filled with (air, helium, hydrogen)

Which arguments are most effective in convincing kids your age that smoking is a bad habit to take up?